UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/634,326	08/04/2003	Shu Lei	5306P107	6782

8791 7590 06/16/2005

BLAKELY SOKOLOFF TAYLOR & ZAFMAN
12400 WILSHIRE BOULEVARD
SEVENTH FLOOR
LOS ANGELES, CA 90025-1030

EXAMINER	
CHOW, CHIH CHING	
ART UNIT	**PAPER NUMBER**
2192	

DATE MAILED: 06/16/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/634,326	LEI ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Chih-Ching Chow	2192	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *02/07/05*.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-28* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-28* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on *04 August 2003* is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is responsive to amendment dated February 07, 2005.

2. Per Applicants' request, claims 1, 11, and 19 have been amended.

3. Claims 1-28 remain pending.

Response to Amendment

4. Applicants' amendment for Claims 1, 11, and 19 filed on 02/07/2005, responding to the 01/04/2005 Office action provided in the 35 USC § 102 and 35 USC § 103 rejections. The examiner has reviewed the filed Amendement and Remarks respectfully.

5. Examiner is maintaining the 35 USC § 102 and 35 USC § 103 Rejections. For the Applicants' convenience they are listed as following, with the amendments requested by the Applicants.

Response to Arguments

6. Applicants' arguments for 35 USC § 102 and 35 USC § 103 rejections have been fully considered respectfully by the Examiner but they are not persuasive.

7. Applicants' arguments for Claim 1 are basically in the following point:

- "Applicants have amended the claims to emphasize the limitation of the user interface display code being dynamically generated at run time. Applicants respectfully submit that Dardinski does not contain the limitation of dynamically generating user interface display code" - Remarks page 9.

Examiner's Response: In response to applicant's argument that Dardinski's disclosure does not contain the limitation of dynamically generating user interface

display code, the Applicants are incorrect. See Dardinski's column 35, lines 40-45, "An Implementation-standard Appearance Definition object may be overridden by a **User-Defined Appearance** Definition object at **runtime** to produce **customized displays and printouts** to **satisfy unique customer documentation requirements.**" - Dardinski's disclosure does teach the limitation of the user interface display being dynamically generated (customized by the customer).

8. Examiner is maintaining the 35 USC § 102 and 35 USC § 103 rejections. For the Applicants' convenience they are listed as following, with the amendments requested by the Applicants.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

9. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -
>
> (e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

10. Claims 1-9, 11-17, 19-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by US Patent No. 6,754,885 by Steven Dardinski (hereinafter "Dardinski").

CLAIM	Dardinski
1. A method comprising: (a) receiving a configuration for a user interface of an application; (b) determining a set of parameters corresponding to the configuration; and (c) dynamically generating user interface display code at run time, the user interface display code based upon the set of configuration parameters.	In Dardinski, column 15, lines 54-56, under 1.1.3, "The Parameter Definition Editor is an interface which allows **Parameter Definitions to be created** for a Parameterized Object." - here the 'parameterized object' can be the user interface display code for an user interface of an application, the parameters are used to configure the user interface, e.g. the position, size, and other attributes. For item (c), See Dardinski's column 35, lines 40-45, "An Implementation-standard Appearance Definition object may be overridden by a **User-Defined Appearance** Definition object at **runtime** to produce **customized displays and printouts** to **satisfy unique customer documentation requirements**" - *dynamically display costomer required information.*
2. The method of claim 1 further comprising: transmitting the user interface display code to a client digital processing system in response to a request to access the application.	For the feature of claim 1 see claim 1 rejection. In Dardinski, column 108, lines 48-49, "The Download Agents rely on Download Servers to **transmit the information to the target systems** (*client digital processing system*)." - the parameters can be transmitted to the client(s), the client/server transmitting needs to via Internet.
3. The method of claim 1 wherein the configuration for the user interface is determined by selecting one or more objects and positioning each object in a	For the feature of claim 1 see claim 1 rejection. In Dardinski, FIG. 38 depicts a **sheet template editor** in a system according to the invention; also in

desired location of a free-form grid layout.	Dardinski, column 100, lines 1-3, "The user interface is provided as an IDA **Grid Editor view** (*free-form grid layout*)."
4. The method of claim 2 wherein the request is communicated through the Internet and the user interface display code is hyper text markup language code.	For the feature of claim 2 see claim 2 rejection. The HTML (hypertext markup language) is well-known as a language that defines structure and layout of an application user interface for the people in the art, see BACGROUND, paragraph 003 in the current application, "The application is created using an authoring language (e.g. HTML) that defines the structure and layout of the application UI. ... Typical web-based applications are presented using a client/server programming model. In such a model, an application provider provides the application on a server digital processing system ('DPS'), and an end-user of the application access the application via a client DPS. For example, for web-based applications, the server DPS houses a program that provides requested HTML to a client DPS when requested."
5. The method of claim 1 wherein the one or more objects are selected using a user input device and each selected object is positioned by dragging the object to a desired location of the free-form grid layout.	For the feature of claim 1 see claim 1 rejection. See Dardinski, column 17, lines 42-45, "each instance of the Object Type hierarchy which serves as a reference for a Typed Object requires a definition reference to the **defining Parameterized Object** (*position* can be included) which defines that Typed Object. This relationship

	provides quick access to the definition object when a symbolic representation of that definition is **dragged and dropped** (*dragging the object to a desired location*) into a view." - in order to do the drag and drop, there must be a *user input device* (possibly a mouse) to do it.
6. The method of claim 1 wherein positioning an object in a desired location of a free-form grid layout includes indicating a desired size for the object.	For the feature of claim 1 see claim 1 rejection. See Dardinski, column 3, lines 25-27, "The placeholder objects identify the **sizes**, locations, colors, etc., of the icons used in the editor to represent the configurable objects."
7. The method of claim 1 wherein indicating a desired size for the object includes selecting a perimeter of the object at a first location on the free-form grid layout and dragging the perimeter to a second location on the free-form grid layout.	For the feature of claim 1 see claim 1 rejection. For the rest of the feature of claim 7, see claim 5, and 6 rejections.
8. The method of claim 4 wherein the hyper text markup language code is dynamically generated based upon the set of configuration parameters and based upon an origin of the request.	For the feature of claim 4 see claim 4 rejection. Since the html defines the structure and the layout of an application, it's definitely **dynamically generated** based upon user's request.
9. The method of claim 1 wherein the free-form grid layout comprises a plurality of grid cells and the set of parameters includes information indicating the position of each object in reference to one or more of the	For the feature of claim 1 see claim 1 rejection. See FIG. 38, it contains a plurality of grid cells. The parameters are discussed in claim 1 rejection.

plurality of grid cells.

11. A system comprising: a server digital processing system having a storage, the storage containing a set of configuration parameters corresponding to a configuration of a user interface of an application; one or more client digital processing systems coupled to the server digital processing system capable of requesting access to the application such that the request causes the server digital processing system to dynamically generate user interface display code at run time, the user interface display code based upon the set of configuration parameters.	In Dardinski, Figure 40, Dardinski's disclosure has database to store the configuration parameters. Again in Dardinski column 108, lines 48-49, "The Download Agents rely on Download Servers to **transmit the information to the target systems**" - this implies that the server will transmit the requested application to the client systems. Also see claim 1 rejection.
12. The system of claim 11 wherein the client digital processing system is coupled to the server digital processing system through the Internet and the user interface display code is hyper text markup language code.	For the feature of claim 11 see claim 11 rejection. For the rest of the feature see claim 2 and 4 rejections.
13. The system of claim 11 wherein the configuration is determined by selecting one or more objects and positioning each object in a desired location of a free-form grid layout.	For the feature of claim 11 see claim 11 rejection. For the rest of claim 13 feature, see claim 5 rejection.
14. The system of claim 11 wherein positioning an object in a desired location of a free-form grid layout includes indicating a desired size for the	For the feature of claim 11 see claim 11 rejection. For the rest of claim 14 feature, see claim 5 and 6 rejections.

object.

15. The system of claim 11 wherein indicating a desired size for the object includes selecting a perimeter of the object at a first location on the free-form grid layout and dragging the perimeter to a second location on the free-form grid layout.	For the feature of claim 11 see claim 11 rejection. For the rest of claim 15 feature, see claim 5 rejection (for drag and drop, you need to select first location then to a second location).
16. The system of claim 14 wherein the hyper text markup language code is dynamically generated based upon the set of configuration parameters and based upon an origin of the request.	For the feature of claim 14 see claim 14 rejection. For the rest of claim 16 feature, see claim 8 rejection.
17. The system of claim 11 wherein the free-form grid layout comprises a plurality of grid cells and the set of parameters includes information indicating the position of each object in reference to one or more of the plurality of grid cells.	For the feature of claim 11 see claim 11 rejection. See Figure 38, in Dardinski's disclosure, it allows user to enter more than on grid cells and the set of selected parameters is recorded.
19. A machine-readable medium that provides instructions, which when executed by a processing system, cause the processing system to perform a method comprising: (a) accessing a generic layout file for a user interface of an application, the generic layout file having a free-form grid layout and a set of objects; (b) creating a configuration for a user interface of an application; (c) determining a set of parameters	For item (a), see Darkinski, Figure 11, and column 15, lines 62-64, "a **generic view pane** which the application programmer can use for just about anything--e.g., a graphical "canvas", or a grid control able to display data in a spreadsheet-like format". For item (b)-(d), see claim 1 rejection.

corresponding to the configuration; and
(d) dynamically generating user interface display code at run time, the user interface display code based upon the set of configuration parameters.

20. The machine-readable medium of claim 19 further comprising:
transmitting the user interface display code to a client digital processing system in response to a request to access the application.

For the feature of claim 19 see claim 19 rejection. For the rest of claim 20 feature, see claim 2 rejection.

21. The machine-readable medium of claim 19 wherein the configuration for the user interface is determined by selecting one or more objects and positioning each object in a desired location of a free-form grid layout.

For the feature of claim 19 see claim 19 rejection. For the rest of claim 21 feature, see claim 3 rejection.

22. The machine-readable medium of claim 20 wherein the request is communicated through the Internet and the user interface display code is hyper text mark up language code.

For the feature of claim 20 see claim 20 rejection. For the rest of claim 22 feature, see claim 4 rejection.

23. The machine-readable medium of claim 19 wherein the one or more objects are selected using a user input device and each selected object is positioned by dragging the object to a desired location of the free-form grid layout.

For the feature of claim 19 see claim 19 rejection. For the rest of claim 23 feature, see claim 5 rejection.

24. The machine-readable medium of claim 19 wherein positioning an object in

For the feature of claim 19 see claim 19 rejection. For the rest of claim 24

a desired location of a free-form grid layout includes indicating a desired size for the object.	feature, see claim 6 rejection.
25. The machine-readable medium of claim 19 wherein indicating a desired size for the object includes selecting a perimeter of the object at a first location on the free-form grid layout and dragging the perimeter to a second location on the free-form grid layout.	For the feature of claim 19 see claim 19 rejection. For the rest of claim 25 feature, see claim 7 rejection.
26. The machine-readable medium of claim 22 wherein the hyper text markup language code is dynamically generated based upon the set of configuration parameters and based upon an origin of the request.	For the feature of claim 22 see claim 22 rejection. For the rest of claim 26 feature, see claim 8 rejection.
27. The machine-readable medium of claim 19 wherein the free-form grid layout comprises a plurality of grid cells and the set of parameters includes information indicating the position of each object in reference to one or more of the plurality of grid cells.	For the feature of claim 19 see claim 19 rejection. For the rest of claim 27 feature, see claim 9 rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

11. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which

said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

12. Claims 10, 18 and 28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent No. 6,754,885 by Steven Dardinski (hereinafter "Dardinski"), in view of . US2004/0117773 by Pascal Nicolle (hereinafter "Nicolle").

CLAIM	Dardinski / Nicolle
10. The method of claim 9 wherein the set of parameters includes a grid coordinate specifying one of the plurality of grid cells, a column span specifying a first dimension, and a row span specifying a second dimension for each of the one or more objects.	For the feature of claim 9 see claim 9 rejection. See Dardinski, Abstract, "The invention provides improved apparatus for configuring process, environmental, industrial and other control systems. Such apparatus employs "appearance" objects (or other data and/or programming constructs) **defining the appearance of configurable system components** in **graphical editors** or other views in which the components may be depicted. "Placeholder" objects (or other constructs) persist the **location**, size, color, or other aspects of appearance defined by an appearance object for a configurable component in views in which it is actually depicted." Also in Dardinski, column 37, lines 60-65, "the Sheet Template is drawn first, as a type of background, then the **Placeholder objects** associated with the document is superimposed upon the drawing surface. The Sheet Template, which is used during printing and/or print preview, is **user-selectable** from the Page Setup dialog." In Dardinski, column 43, lines

	12-17, "Each Sheet Template object contains a reference to **one or more representations** (*grid cells, grid coordinate*) of **Graphical Objects**, via instances of the Abstract Placeholder class. Placeholders are used to provide the mechanism for persistent storage of the **placement of various objects** in the Sheet Template." Dardinski teaches all aspects of claim 10, but does not mention the 'grid coordinate' specifically. However, Nicolle teaches that feature in an analogous art. In Nicolle, paragraph 042, "Graphic **coordinates** are related to the **position of objects in the grid of rows and columns representing a graphic**." It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to supplement Dardinski disclosure of the free-form grid editor by utilizing the 'coordinates' concept taught by Nicolle, for the purpose of representing a graphic (see Nicolle, end of paragraph 42).
18. The system of claim 17 wherein the set of parameters includes a grid coordinate specifying one of the plurality of grid cells, a column span specifying a first dimension, and a row span specifying a second dimension for each of the one or more objects.	For the feature of claim 17 see claim 17 rejection. For the reset of the feature see claim 10 rejection.
28. The machine-readable medium of claim 27 wherein the set of parameters	For the feature of claim 27 see claim 27 rejection. For the rest of claim 28

includes a grid coordinate specifying one of the plurality of grid cells, a column span specifying a first dimension, and a row span specifying a second dimension for each of the one or more objects.

feature, see claim 10 rejection.

Conclusion

13. The following summarizes the status of the claims:

35 USC § 102 rejection: Claims 1-9, 11-17, 19-27

35 USC § 103 rejection: Claims 10, 18 and 28

14. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Chih-Ching Chow whose telephone number is 571-272-3693. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30am - 4:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tuan Dam can be reached on 571-272-3695. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306. Any inquiry of a general nature of relating to the status of this application should be directed to the **TC2100 Group receptionist: 571-272-2100.**

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Chih-Ching Chow

Examiner

Art Unit 2192

June 07, 2005

CC

WEI Y. ZHEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER